

Using the Python “mock” module

What are automated tests for?

An automated test can be run to automatically verify a degree of program correctness.

They are tremendously helpful in large projects, especially large projects in dynamic languages like Python.

Kinds of tests

- Unit tests test a small piece of your program. You want them to test a single thing in isolation.
- There are also integration tests and system tests, which test larger portions of your program.

Why use “mock”?

- Mock can be used to facilitate testing a very specific part of your program, independent of other parts.
- For example, if you are interacting with a database, you might mock the database to test your software without concerning yourself with what's happening to the data in your database.

Example code

- <http://stromberg.dnsalias.org/svn/just-one/trunk/>